

Government Orders

from the north. We put advertisements in the paper, we contacted several organizations, and when it came down to the hearings it turned out it would be more economical to bring those who wished to appear before us to Vancouver or Edmonton. In the final analysis none of them turned up. We offered but they did not turn up.

Upon reflection I think we should have gone to the north. There was some reluctance on their part, even though we agreed to pay expenses for them to fly down and stay in a hotel while they were in Vancouver or Edmonton. They were obviously reluctant to do that. I would think that another time we would be well advised to go to the north.

Let me say something about mobility. This matter has been raised several times during our meetings, during the hearings that we had, and also in the House in various speeches. We are a very mobile society.

It may be in your community that they are not very mobile, but generally speaking, Canadians are very mobile. You can go to Alberta and find many people from Ontario. I can recall during the energy crisis that some of my constituents went from Burlington to Alberta and were coming back home for Christmas and telling me I could freeze in the dark. They became westerners or Albertans pretty fast, and so it is with our society. Two of my sons are on the west coast in British Columbia. I can remember moving to three or four different cities because there was work there.

The general opinion of most Canadians is that if work is available they are going to go and find it somewhere, not stand there and let the government bring it to them. There are others who for a variety of reasons prefer the lifestyle they have in the community in which they live. Perhaps that is their choice; it is a free country. Where mobility is available and people want to work in another location either for more experience or better wages they should be allowed to do so. We will see that they are made mobile, to the best of our ability.

In my own business or my own shop at one time almost everybody on the floor came from the maritimes. They were darn good workers and we were glad to get them. We paid them well to stay there. I do not think there is anything in the bill that is going to disrupt communities. If someone wishes to leave it is their free choice to leave.

Mr. Karpoff: I have a very short question. I would like the member to inform me, and through me my municipality, where they are going to get the \$814,000 that they have to raise in order to pay the increased unemployment insurance premiums?

Mr. Kempling: First of all I do not accept the \$814,000. I would have to look at it to see how it is calculated.

Mr. Karpoff: It's accurate.

Mr. Kempling: I listened to you; kindly listen to me. I would have to see how that was calculated to see whether it is right or not.

If you look at the premiums you will find they are below the 10-year average. There have been times in the last decade when the premiums were much higher than the premium today. The premium today is lower than the 10-year average.

The member's question is a little off base. Wages have increased in the last decade; disposable income has increased dramatically in the last decade. Since 1984 disposal income broadly across the country has been about \$1,400 per capita. I do not think there is any problem paying the premiums, and I do not think your question is well founded.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Questions and comments are now terminated.

• (1240)

Mr. Fred J. Mifflin (Bonavista—Trinity—Conception): Mr. Speaker, I wish to speak today on Bill C-21, tabled in the House and brought to the attention of the Canadian people some seven months ago, on April 11, and again in the budget on April 26.

There are a number of things that concern this side of the House about this deplorable initiative that in my province affects roughly 150,000 Newfoundlanders. Above all, speaking as the member for Bonavista—Trinity—Conception, it is the negative synergism of this bill that really concerns me. I have a number of concerns, and I hope to be able to get through them in the limited time that I have.

The point I would like to make at the outset is that in this case one and one and one concern does not add up to three. It adds up to more like 15 or 20. The effect is not linear; it is exponential.